CLAIMS

5   1   A cash/voucher terminal configured for use in a cashless gaming environment, where the gaming environment comprises player terminals having games usable for gambling and where cash cannot be used at player terminals, and where player terminals use cashless vouchers and the cashless vouchers further comprise indicia thereon, where the indicia further comprises a transaction identification and

10   further has no value therein, the cash/voucher terminal comprising:

an enclosure operably containing said cash/voucher terminal;

a network interface for operably connecting said cash/voucher terminal to a communications network;

a cashless voucher reader operably disposed within said cash/voucher

15   terminal and configured to read cashless voucher indicia;

a cash dispenser operably disposed within said cash/voucher terminal; and,

where said cash/voucher terminal is configured to

have no game therein,

receive cashless voucher indicia from said cashless voucher reader,

20   send said cashless voucher indicia operably out of said network

interface,

receive data from said network interface where said data comprises a

cash value associated with said read cashless voucher indicia, and,

send said cash value to said currency dispenser, where said currency

dispenser dispenses a cash amount according to said cash value.

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2   The cash/voucher terminal of claim 1 where said indicia on said cashless

vouchers further comprises at least partially encrypted data.

3   The cash/voucher terminal of claim 1 where said transaction identification

10   comprises a value derived from time.

4   The cash/voucher terminal of claim 3 where said transaction identification

further comprises a value further derived from at least one of: date, machine

number, or random number.

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5   A method for redeeming cashless vouchers using a cash/voucher terminal in a

gaming environment where the gaming environment comprises player terminals

having games usable for gambling and where cash cannot be used at player

terminals, and where player terminals use cashless vouchers and the cashless

20   vouchers further comprise indicia thereon, where the indicia further comprises a

transaction identification and further has no value therein, the method comprising:

receiving a cashless voucher into a cashless voucher reader;

reading indicia from said cashless voucher;

sending said indicia via a network to a computer having operably disposed thereon a database configured to associate a transaction identification with a value;

identifying a transaction identification from said indicia on said computer;

5   associating said transaction identification with a value using said database on said computer;

receiving said value from said computer via said network; and,

dispensing currency in accordance with said value.

10   6 The method of claim 5 where said transaction identification is at least partially encrypted.

7 The method of claim 5 where said transaction identification comprises a value derived from time.

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8 The method of claim 7 where said transaction identification further comprises a value further derived from at least one of: date, machine number, or random number.

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